



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

result is a valuable contribution to the morphology of the Laminariaceae. The distribution and habitat are also presented in full, as well as an interesting account of the economic use of the genus. More than 32 species have been described since the genus was established in 1830, but the author recognizes only 15. The uncertainty of specific limitations has been due to the fact that the describer has not observed the stages of development or the effects of different habitats, so that different forms of one species have been described as distinct species. The author has studied *Alaria* in its habitats throughout the northern Pacific from Vancouver Island to Japan, and the result is a reorganized presentation of the genus, only one new species being recognized (*A. ochotensis*), but a number of old "species" disappearing as stages or habitat forms of other species.—J. M. C.

Cones of *Williamsonia*.—The organization of the cones of *Williamsonia gigas* has been a "palaeobotanical puzzle" ever since the original description in 1849. Since that date it is said that approximately 100 memoirs have discussed this subject. The late E. A. NEWELL ARBER¹⁰ left a brief paper summing up the difficulties, and suggesting conclusions. The difficulties presented are 4 in number: (1) were the cones monosporangiate or bisporangiate? (2) where were the microsporophylls attached? (3) what structure was borne on the axis of the cone above the megasporophylls? (4) was there an infundibular expansion, similar in form to the united whorl of microsporophylls, but sterile, and where was it attached?

The answers given are as follows: (1) the cones were probably monosporangiate; (2) the ovulate cone bore only seeds and interseminal scales on a conical axis; (3) the staminate cone had an urn-shaped axis, sheathed below, which bore apically a whorl of partly united microsporophylls and no interseminal scales; (4) there is no evidence of any sterile infundibular organ attached to or terminating either cone.—J. M. C.

Zingiberaceae of Java.—In 1904 VALETON¹¹ published an account of the Zingiberaceae of Java. This account he has now supplemented¹² by further investigation during the last 15 years. The present extensive paper is only the first part, dealing chiefly with *Curcuma*, *Gastrochilus*, *Kaempferia*, and *Zingiber*. There is a very full discussion of the characters of the family, and each species is presented in great detail. The 4 genera referred to are represented as follows: *Curcuma*, 21 spp. (10 new); *Gastrochilus*, 16 spp. (5 new); *Kaempferia*, 4 spp.; *Zingiber*, 17 spp. (5 new).—J. M. C.

¹⁰ ARBER, E. A. NEWELL, Remarks on the organization of the cones of *Williamsonia gigas*. Ann. Botany 33:173-179. figs. 5. 1919.

¹¹ Bull. Inst. Bot. Buitenzorg. no. 20. 1904.

¹² VALETON, TH., New notes on the Zingiberaceae of Java and Malaya. Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg. no. 27. pp. 168. pls. 30. 1918.